

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE  
OFFICE OF PLANNING



December 5, 2013

Robert H. Sanders  
Office of Real Property Management  
U.S. Department of State  
Washington, D.C. 20520

Re: Determination of Effect,  
Rehabilitation of Potomac Annex Buildings 3, 4, and 5

Dear Mr. Sanders:

Thank you for your submission dated October 21, 2013 and supplemental information received by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) on December 3, 2013 for the above-mentioned project.

The SHPO has reviewed these materials and concurs with the Department of State's finding of no adverse effect conditioned upon the following:

- In order to convey the original interior plan, the maximum amount of solid wall surface in the main lobby of Building 3 shall be retained while also allowing new openings that provide flexible space.
- Columns in hallways shall project a minimum of 3" forward of new walls in order to maintain the original appearance.
- Fire or other doors placed within corridors in preservation or restoration zones shall be largely glass to preserve views down the corridors. The doors shall be placed as far from lobbies as possible to maintain the maximum visibility down hallways and the sense of the buildings' original circulation patterns.
- No exterior waterproofing or sealer shall be applied to the brick walls.

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- The height of the proposed door on the east side of Building 5 shall match the heights of the adjacent porch doors. Bricks removed for the installation of this door shall be retained in the building or reused (i.e. to infill non-original attic door opening).

The SHPO appreciates the efforts of the Department of State and its consultants and their thoughtful consideration of SHPO's comments throughout the consultation process. Please let me know if you have any questions; I can be reached at [anne.brockett@dc.gov](mailto:anne.brockett@dc.gov) or 202-442-8842.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Brockett', with a long, sweeping horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Anne Brockett  
Architectural Historian